

V. REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as anticipated by Matayoshi (JP 2002-035209). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

JP 209 teaches a gaming machine such as a pachinko or slot machine. The gaming machine includes a pair of speakers that are exposed on the front surface of the gaming machine. A source of light is disposed adjacent to respective ones of the pair of speakers. Each one of the pair of speakers along with its light source is covered by a cover.

Claim 1, amended, is directed to a gaming machine that includes a controller, a cabinet, a sound output device, a light emission device and a cover. Claim 1 recites that the controller is configured to hold an internal lottery of a game using a random number at a predetermined timing and the cabinet contains the controller and has a front surface with a recess formed thereinto. Claim 1 also recites that the recess is defined by a recess bottom wall and a stepped down wall extending generally perpendicularly to the front surface and the bottom wall. Additionally, claim 1 recites that the sound output device is disposed in the recess through the bottom wall, has a part exposed to the front surface of the cabinet of the gaming machine and is configured to output sound toward a front direction. Claim 1 further recites that the light emission device is disposed away from the exposed part of the sound output device and is attached to the stepped down wall and the light emission device is configured to emit light. Furthermore, claim 1 recites that the cover is operative to be releasably connected to the front surface and to cover the light emission device with the cover having an internal surface and an opposite external surface with the internal surface having continuous asperities formed thereon for irregularly reflecting and diffusing the emitted light.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each element of claim 1 as amended. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art fails to teach a cabinet having a front surface with a recess formed thereinto with the recess defined by a recess bottom wall and a stepped down wall extending generally perpendicularly to the front surface and the recess bottom wall. Also, in our opinion, the applied art fails to teach a cover having an internal surface and an opposite external surface with the internal surface having continuous asperities formed thereon for irregularly reflecting and diffusing the emitted light. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as amended, is allowable over the applied art.

Claim 4 depends from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claim is allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Claims 2 and 3 are canceled and, as a result, the rejection as applied thereto is now moot.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Further, Applicants assert that there are also reasons other than those set forth above why the pending claims are patentable. Applicants hereby reserve the right to submit those other reasons and to argue for the patentability of claims not explicitly addressed herein in future papers.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance; the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the

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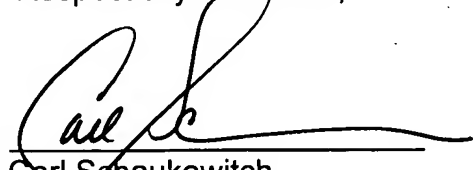
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same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 15, 2007

By:


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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal
 Petition for Extension of Time (one month)

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